Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of making ready for presentation a graphical element in a computer application program by communicating with a computer operating system, the method comprising:

executing a first procedure for measuring the element, wherein the first procedure at least determines whether the element has one or more children and determines a size for the element based on an element type for the element when the element has no children;

executing a second procedure for arranging the element; and

wherein the second procedure is invoked and executed independently from the first procedure, computes a final size for the element, performs internal arrangement functions on the element if the element has no children, and if the element has children, and further computes display positions for a child-element of the element, wherein the internal arrangement functions include font, alignment, and color operations affecting the appearance of the element and wherein the display positions comprise a coordinate of a shape representing the element.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the first procedure returns a desired size for the element.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the first procedure computes desired sizes for child-elements of the element.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the first procedure comprises determining whether a child-element requires computation of its desired size.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising signaling the element's need to be measured by the first procedure.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the signaling step comprises calling a measure invalidation function.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the signaling step further comprises setting a flag on the element.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the signaling step comprises notifying the operating system.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the signaling step comprises notifying the element's parent-element.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the element requests the measuring of all elements needing to be measured.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising signaling with a signal an element's need to be arranged by the second procedure.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the signal comprises calling an arrange invalidation function.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the signaling step further comprises setting a flag on the element.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the element requests the arranging of all elements needing to be arranged.

17. (Currently Amended)   A computer storage medium having stored thereon a set of executable procedures callable by a computer application program for making ready for presentation a graphical element, including at least:

a first procedure for measuring the element;

a second procedure for arranging the element, wherein the second procedure at least determines whether the element has one or more children and performs internal arrangement functions on the element when the element has no children; and

wherein the first procedure and the second procedure are used to manage a layout of one or more graphical elements, and the second procedure is called and executed independently from the first procedure, and wherein the second procedure computes a final size for the element, performs internal arrangement functions on the element if the element has no children, and if the element has children, ~~and further~~ computes display positions for a child-element of the element, wherein the internal arrangement functions include font, alignment, and color operations affecting the appearance of the element and wherein the display positions comprise a coordinate of a shape representing the element.

18. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 wherein the first procedure returns a desired size for the element.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 further including at least a procedure for signaling the element's need to be measured.

21. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 further including at least a procedure for signaling the element's need to be arranged.

22. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 further including at least a procedure for signaling to a parent element the child element's need to be measured.

23. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 further including at least a procedure for requesting the measurement of all elements needing to be measured.

24. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 17 further including at least a procedure for requesting the arrangement of all elements needing to be arranged.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended)   A computer system for making ready for presentation a graphical element, the system comprising:

    a memory for storing executable program code; and

    a processor, functionally coupled to the memory, the processor being responsive to computer-executable instructions contained in the program code and operative to:

        execute a first executable procedure using a data structure representing the element for measuring the element, wherein the first executable procedure at least determines whether the element has one or more children and determines a size for the element based on the an element type for the element when the element has no children; and

        execute a second executable procedure using the data structure for arranging the element, wherein the second executable procedure computes a final size for the element, performs internal arrangement functions on the element if the element has no children, and if the element has children, ~~and further~~ computes display positions for a child-element of the element, wherein the internal arrangement functions include font, alignment, and color operations affecting the appearance of the element and wherein the display positions comprise a coordinate of a shape representing the element.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein the data structure comprises:

    a first value representing the desired size of the element;

    a second value representing the computed size of the element;

    a first flag for triggering measurement of the element; and

    a second flag for triggering arrangement of the element.

28. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein the first executable procedure returns a desired size for the element.

29. (Original) The system of claim 28 wherein the first executable procedure computes desired sizes of child-elements of the element.

30-31. (Canceled)

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the second executable procedure further computes display positions for a child-element of the element.

32. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 27, wherein the processor is further operative to execute an executable procedure using the first flag for signaling the element's need to be measured by the first executable procedure.

33. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is further operative to execute an executable procedure using the second flag for signaling the element's need to be arranged by the second executable procedure.

34. (Currently Amended)   A computer storage medium including computer-executable instructions facilitating making ready for presentation a graphical element in a system, computer-executable instructions executing the steps of:

      calling a measuring procedure to measure the element, wherein the measuring procedure at least determines whether the element has one or more children and determines a size for the element based on the an element type for the element when the element has no children;

      calling an arranging procedure to arrange the element, wherein the arranging procedure at least determines whether the element has one or more children and performs internal arrangement functions on the element when the element has no children; and

      wherein the measuring procedure is called and executed independently from the arranging procedure and wherein the arranging procedure computes a final size for the element, performs internal arrangement functions on the element if the element has no children, and if the

element has children, ~~and further~~ computes display positions for a child-element of the element, <u>wherein the internal arrangement functions include font, alignment, and color operations affecting the appearance of the element and</u> wherein the display positions comprise a top-left coordinate of a rectangle representing the element.

35. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 34, wherein the measuring procedure returns a desired size for the element.

36. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 35, wherein the measuring procedure computes desired sizes for child-elements of the element.

37. (Previously Presented)   The computer storage medium of claim 35, wherein the measuring procedure comprises determining whether a child-element requires computation of its desired size.

38-40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended)   A method for arranging for presentation a graphical element in a computer application program, the method comprising:

      receiving a final size parameter for the element; and

      causing an arranging function to provide a computed size parameter for the element, using the final size parameter, wherein the arranging function at least determines whether the element has one or more children, computes a final size for the element<u>, performs internal arrangement functions on the element if the element has no children, and if the element has children,</u> ~~and further~~ computes display positions for a child-element of the element, <u>wherein the internal arrangement functions include font, alignment, and color operations affecting the appearance of the element and</u> wherein the display positions comprise a coordinate of a shape representing the element~~, and performs internal arrangement functions on the element when the element has no children~~.

42. (Canceled)